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Advancement of women

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft resolution

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993,[1]

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948,[1] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[3] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[4]

Recalling also the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women, adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, held in Belém, Brazil, in 1994,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[4] Resolution 39/46, annex.

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Concerned that violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace, as recognized in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[5] which recommended a set of measures to combat violence against women, and to the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Also concerned that some groups of women, such as women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women, refugee women, migrant women, women living in rural or remote communities, destitute women, women in institutions or in detention, the girl child, women with disabilities, elderly women and women in situations of armed conflict, are especially vulnerable to violence,

Recognizing that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of their full advancement, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into subordinate positions, compared with men,

Recognizing also the urgent need for the universal application to women of the rights and principles with regard to equality, security, liberty, integrity and dignity of all human need,

Alarmed that women's opportunities to achieve legal, social, political and economic equality in society are limited, *inter alia*, by continuing and endemic violence,

Recognizing with satisfaction the cooperation provided by the relevant agencies, bodies, funds and organs of the United Nations system to different countries in the fight to eradicate violence against women, in the fulfilment of their respective mandates,

Recognizing also the efforts made by civil society and non-governmental organizations that have contributed to create worldwide social conscience of the negative impact, both on social and economic life, of violence against women,

Reiterating that, according to article 1 of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, the term "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life,

Decides to designate 25 November International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

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[5] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.